



• PAARA NEWSLETTER •
VOLUME 46 • NUMBER 7 • July • 1997



PAARAgraphs

Celebrating 60 years as a *real* ham radio club—Since 1937

Newsletter for the **Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**



CALENDAR

- July 11, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
Menlo Park Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park 7:30-9:30 PM
- July 16., **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30
Red Cross Blvd. 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto
- August 1, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
August 6, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30
- Sept 5, **PAARA Meeting**, 7:30
Sept 10, **PAARA Board Meeting**, 7:30
- Oct 4, **PAARA Auction** (tentative)
Oct 17-19, **PACIFICON 97**



Program

June 6, 1997
7:30 P.M.

Speaker:

Not confirmed at press time
Check on NET Monday night before meeting

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm,
on the 145.230-600 repeater MHz, PL tone off. •



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

de VIC BLACK, AB6SO

Web Sites and Reflectors

There have been enough requests for Internet information to justify a column devoted solely to web sites and e-mail lists. First, we'll look at some interesting radio web sites and then we'll check Internet lists, or "reflectors", that you can subscribe to with ordinary e-mail. Think of these as free, daily ham radio magazines.

One of my outdoor ham radio activities is rail fanning, or chasing and photographing trains. We use scanners to listen for train detectors, crews and dispatchers. We use VHF/UHF HT's to coordinate our activities with other hams. We carry maps, GPS gear and sometimes HF QRP transceivers on the desert runs. We're careful not to trespass on private property although this usually isn't a problem on public lands such as national forests or BLM land.

Recently, PAARA member Mike Leland (KD6PIW) was on a rail fan trip in the Mojave desert with Jim Groenke (KM6UL), Gary Perazzo (K6SP, ex-KK7H) and locomotive engineer John Black (KD6LKX). While chasing a train, these high plains drifters were politely, but firmly, turned back on public land by security guards who claimed the hams were too close to a nearby "agricultural preserve". Apparently the antennas, scanners, HT's and cameras attracted the guards. Agricultural preserve? Yeah, right! No crops were in sight and agriculture is unlikely in that part of the desert. A records check at the county Recorder's Office revealed who pays taxes on the adjacent, guarded land. Further research by Jim Groenke, led to an intriguing web page with aerial photos of mysterious remote high tech desert radio sites. This one's interesting, educational and, yes, weird!

(Continued on page 52)Ponderings

Miscellaneous Dates

Flea Market at Foothill

Mar 8 West Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA)
 Apr 12 Palo Alto Chapter, American Red Cross
 May 10 Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA)
 Jun 14 San Jose Chapter, American Red Cross
 Jul 12 Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association (SCCARA)
 Aug 9 South Peninsula Emergency Communication System (SPECS)
 Sep 13 Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club (EMARC)
 Oct 11 Silicon Valley Emergency Communications System (SVECS)

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,
 contact: Vic Black, Jr. AB6SO, (415)366-0636.

PAARA Auction, Saturday, October 4 (tentative)

contact Vic Black, AB6SO, (415)366-0636.

EMARC Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month,
 contact Sheldon Edelman 415-858-2176, Edelman@richochet.net

NCDXC Northern California DX Club

Meets 2nd Friday each month, repeater for member info 147.360, each
 Thursday 8:00PM, contact Bob Mammarella KB6FEC 408 729 1544

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

Meets 1st Sunday each month, contact Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd.,
 Sacramento, CA 95821.

Perham Foundation, contact Jerry Tucker WA6LNV 415-961-3266

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 224.36, 440.80 MHz
 contact Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, 408-243-6745 or 408-249-6909.

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact Dick Collins K6ANN 415-593-8952

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU repeater 146.385+ Nets: 2m, W6UU, 7:30 Mon; 10m,
 28.385, 8:00 Thur. Meets 2nd Mon each month. Contact Jack R

SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates WB6ADZ repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact Lou Stier WA6QYS 408 241 7999

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2
 Meets 3rd Wed every month. Contact Glen Lokke Jr. KE6NBO
 at 408 971 8626, or glokke@pacbell.net

Disaster Services, PALO ALTO CHAPTER, American Red Cross

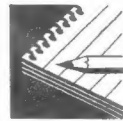
Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM, HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR
 Gateway, NASA satellite, Contact Alan Ball 415-688-0423.

SAN JOSE CHAPTER, American Red Cross

contact Scott Hensley KB6UOO, 408 249 7093, fsh@richochet.net

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 11AM

American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, R.C.



The Board Minutes

Dave Bailey (WS6W), Secretary

June 11, 1997, 7:30 PM PAARA Board Meeting

Present :

Vic Black (AB6SO)- President
 Bill Rausch (AA6PA)
 Steve Stuntz (K6FS)

Dave Bailey (WS6W) - Secretary
 Fred Canham (K6YT)
 Wally Porter (K6URO)

The meeting was called to order by **Vic (AB6SO)**. The May 7 PAARA Board meeting minutes were read by **Dave (WS6W)** and approved by the Board. **Dave (WS6W)** also reported that three people paid their dues at the last meeting. **Wally(K6URO)** gave the PAARAgaphs report. **Vic (AB6SO)** said it is time to make a new roster.

Old Business:

1. The PAARA picnic was held Saturday, June 7, at the QTH of **Ron (W6VG)** and **Helga Panton**. The weather was beautiful, and everyone had a great time. Our thanks to **Ron and Helga** for use of their yard.

2. The PAARA ARRL Field Day will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 28 and 29. The budget from the picnic will be carried over into Field Day since we will use leftover non-perishable food from the picnic. We will need to budget the steaks from Price Club. We will ask for volunteers to buy (and cook) the steaks over the net. **Steve (K6FS)** will attempt to copy the Field Day message from ARRL. The West Valley Amateur Radio Association has a Field Day Net. Last year, they had an 8A station, with 6 HF stations and 3 VHF/UHF stations (the first one is free). Novice, one VHF, packet and satellite stations are free. They placed 2nd on the West Coast and 1st in California last year.

New Business:

1. **Andy(K6EHS)**, **Steve (K6FS)**, **Les (WB6ORZ)**, **Vic (AB6SO)**, **Hank (W6UCE)**, and **Dave (WS6W)** received operating awards for checking into the Monday night net at least 20 times in 1997. The certificate looks like the award PAARA received for donating money to AMSAT.

2. We hope to hold a license class this summer. **Bill (AA6PA)** is willing to do the instruction. **Steve (K6FS)** will discuss the class with a professor at Menlo College, so hopefully we can hold the class there.

3. The Autumn Auction is scheduled for October 4, subject to change. **Bill (AA6PA)** will be in touch with **Jim Moss (WB9AJZ)** at National Semiconductor (possible QTH).

(Continued on page 51) Board Minutes

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PO BOX 21409
 San Jose Ca 95151-1409

408-274-3559 VOC-FAX
 Email, lyntec@ccnet.com

PAARA 7:30
July 11

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
PO Box 911
Menlo Park, CA 94026

President.....Vic Black, Jr., AB6SO.....(415) 366-0636
 Vice President.....Dave Meacham, W6EMD.....(415) 369 2633
 Secretary.....Dave Bailey, WS6W.....(408) 730-5215
 Treasurer.....Doug Schliebus, W6HXL.....(415) 851 0727
 Trustee/Property/Badges..Fred Canham, K6YT.....(415) 948-9238
 ARES Officer.....Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM.....(415) 325-5484
 Club Historian.....Steve Stuntz, K6FS.....(415) 322-4952
 Advertising.....Bob Korte, KD6KYT.....(415) 595 1842

Board of Directors

John Buonocore, KD6ZL (415) 366 1658 '97
 Fred Canham, K6YT (415) 948 9238 '97
 Charles Grandjean, WD6FAF '98
 Steve Stuntz, K6FS (415) 322 4952 '97

(see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

PAARAgaphs Staff

Editor.....Wally Porter, K6URO.....(415) 494 7038
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 e-mail Address: wmpor@att.net



PAARA Meeting Minutes

June 6, 1997

submitted by:

Dave Bailey(WS6W), Secretary

President **Vic Black (AB6SO)** called the meeting to order, and introductions were made. **Peter Stevens (KE6FZF)** was visiting for the first time. **John (KF6KYL)** just received his license.

Announcements:

1. The PAARA Board will meet at 7.30 p.m. next Wednesday, June 11, in the Palo Alto Red Cross Building, 400 Mitchell Lane, Palo Alto (near the Cal Train station, downtown Palo Alto). We do most of our club business there and visitors are welcome.
2. The Foothill Flea Market will be held on Saturday, June 14, at 6.00 a.m.
3. The VEC License Exams will be held Saturday, June 21, at the American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, Redwood City.
4. The Livermore Swap Meet is scheduled for Sunday, July 6, from 7 a.m. until about 11 a.m. in the parking lot at



PAARA PRIDE
 wear your
PAARA Badge

to

meetings, picnics, field days, winter parties, ham fests,
 flea markets, Pacificons...
 (if you need one, contact Fred, K6YT)

(Continued from page 50) Board Minutes

4. **Steve (K6FS)** updated us on the Coast Guard Commemorative station. July 13 will be the 129th International Guard Open House and we have been invited to set up a special events station. On July 7, **Steve** will get together with the public affairs officer. We hope to operate an HF station for 5 to 6 hours.

1. We plan to have a special events station for the club's 60th anniversary in November. We need 3 months' notice for publicity and VHF and UHF equipment as well as a specific date and QTH.

6. We will organize an Officers' Nominating Committee at the next meeting.

1. We plan to have a Winter Party this year. The specific date and QTH have not been decided.

Other Business:

1. The next club meeting will be July 11, because the Rec Center will be closed on July 4 for Independence Day.

2. The Rent for the next 6 months is due to the Rec Center. The cost is \$150.

3. The meeting dates for the next 6 months are 7/11, 8/1, 9/5, 10/3, 11/7, and 12/5.

4. The date for the next Board meeting is July 16.

5. We could not find our overhead projector for our last meeting. **Steve (K6FS)** will ask where the overhead projector is and obtain a key to the room. **Wally (K6URO)** looked at used overhead projectors and spare bulbs at Repo Depo.

The meeting was adjourned. ☺☺☺

Las Positas College in Livermore.

5. Next month's club meeting will be on July 11 (second Friday). The first Friday is a holiday (Independence Day) and the Recreation Center will not be open.

6. For club badges see **Fred Canham (K6YT)**.

7. Contact **Vic (AB6SO)** for new e-mail addresses or changes.

Continuing Business.

1. The PAARA May Foothill Flea Market was a resounding success The club made approximately \$3800 net after expenses (about \$1000)

2. The annual PAARA summer picnic will be held June 7, at the home of **Ron (W6VC)** and **Helga Panton**, 5 Cedar Ct., Menlo Park, CA. Activities start at 11 a.m. and run until 3 p.m. The club supplies coffee, beer, cold drinks, charcoal and a cold cut deli plate. Bring something to barbecue and optionally something to share. Come and bring a friend.

3. The PAARA ARRL Field Day will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 28 and 29. PAARA's Field Day site is located at the bay end of Bay Road in East Palo Alto. Take the University Avenue exit to Bay and turn right. You will pass a wildlife refuge and enter the private gate marked Boat Works. Setup starts at 11 a.m. on Friday the 27th, and Field Day goes from 11 a.m. on Saturday until 11 a.m. on Sunday, with cleanup after that. Contact **Gerry Tucker (WA6LNV)** (326-

(Continued on page 54) PAARA Meeting

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Large cranes and glowing disks or white domes have been seen on aircraft runways. Some are in canyons inaccessible to airplanes. Photos feature unusual microwave antennas, ramps leading to underground bunkers and giant sundials in the middle of slightly uphill concrete landing strips with low transverse walls crossing the runways. UFO "foamers" often report these as "UFO landing sites". Are these bizarre sites associated with Nevada's mysterious and supposedly non-existent Area 51? In some ways, maybe.

Go to

<http://www.serve.com/mahood/RCS/rcs-main.htm>
 for a comprehensive and factual explanation of these unusual radio sites. Area 51, move over. Fact is stranger than fiction.

Next, high speed CW whiz **Monte "Ron" Stark (KU7Y)**, of Washoe Lake, Nevada recommends

<http://www.wdn.com/thedailydx>.

He said, "This is the very best DX news system I've seen yet. If you like to keep up with the DX world, be sure to check this out." This is actually an on-line daily magazine so there is an annual fee of \$36. Try the free two week trial subscription.

Cecil Moore (W6RCA), keeps developing innovative antenna designs and new HF wire beams. Check out

<http://people.delphi.com/CecilMoore>.

Cecil debunks a lot of antenna myths. He also makes you want to rush out to buy a bunch of wire!

In an e-mail message, **Brian Milesosky (N5ZGT)**, teenage columnist of the Worldradio Youth Forum, recommends

<http://www.swcp.com/%7Eab5p/foxhunt.html>

as "perhaps the best Transmitter Hunting web page there is on the Internet. It contains a ton of information, and many links to other RDF pages." This web page is maintained by the very active Albuquerque fox hunters.

Brian Short (K7ON) has just installed a huge collection of equipment modifications on his web page:

<http://www.qsl.net/k7on/radmods.htm/>

Mods are for the following brands of equipment: AEA, Alinco, AOR, Argosy, Bearcat, GE, Grundig, Heathkit, Icom, Kantronics, Kenwood, MFJ, Motorola, Paccom, Ramsey, Ranger, Regency, Sangean, Sony, Standard, Tandy, TAPR, Uniden and Yaesu as well as a miscellaneous listing.

"Homebrew Reflector", a ham radio experimenters' mail list, is accessible from an ordinary e-mail account and doesn't require web access. The reflector covers kit building, scratch construction, surplus conversions, repair, design, and modification of radios, antennas and accessories as well as station construction. It includes digital, analog and microprocessor techniques. This recommendation comes from **KD6PAG** via **Andy Korsak (VE3FZK)**. The list mechanics for subscribing are typical for e-mail reflectors. To be added to the mailing list, send e-mail as follows:

(Continued on page 53)Ponderings



PROGRAM NOTES:

**PAARA Program,
June 6, 1997**

— Steve Stuntz, K6FS

Century 21 came early to PAARA; our guest presenter, **David Wait (KF6COV, now W1AIX)**, his late grandfather's call, courtesy of FCC's "vanity" program), representing **Metricom/Ricochet Personal Communication Systems of Los Gatos**, described an innovative means of enabling computer networkers to utilize spread-spectrum channels in the 900-MHz region for exchanging data around metropolitan areas, in somewhat the same fashion as cellular telephoner's communicate "on the fly"

Unfortunately **Dave** had to describe system configuration without visual aids (somebody had misplaced PAARA's overhead projector), but proceeded to cue his discussion from the LCD panel of his laptop, with resounding success.

"Ricochet" is the name of a wireless communication service operating over Metricom's Micro Cellular Data, Network, MCDN for short, consisting of an array of nodes, roughly analogous to amateur packet nodes, each node serving a given geographic area centered on its location atop pre-existing structures (street light poles, building roofs, etc.). (comment: *no unsightly multi-branched antenna trees required for now, at least. Won't the folks in Half Moon Bay be happy?*)

The Ricochet network basically replaces the telephone line to a subscriber's modem, supporting e-mailing, faxing, Internet surfing, news-group browsing, BBS access, and all the usual network services available by wire - but without the wire. As **Dave** put it, "You can work from your laptop while sitting in the park."

Operating in the 902-928 MHz band, it employs frequency-hopping technology to accommodate multiple simultaneous users, avoiding inter-channel interference.

Responding to a question from our irrepressible **Andy (VE3FZK)**, **Dave** mentioned that the company's staff at present is about 10% hams, and indeed was started by one ham - former **WB6RAL (now W6MT)** and a few ham friends with ingenious ideas that "grew and grew" by dint of a lot of hard, inspired engineering.

Getting down to hardware and operation. **Dave** passed around one of the compact weather-sealed node units for inspection, at the same time describing how it responds to signals from a battery-powered handy-talky-size RF modem (sample circulated during **Dave's** talk) that attaches directly to the body of the user's computer. Essentially a UHF transceiver, the modem communicates with an accessible node via a finger-length "rubber-ducky" antenna. Regulated

(Continued on page 53) Program Notes

(Continued from page 52)Ponderings

TO: majordomo@qsl.net

SUBJECT: <leave blank>

BODY: subscribe homebrew address, where "address" is your own e-mail address

To be deleted from the mailing list, send e-mail as follows:

TO: majordomo@qsl.net

SUBJECT: <leave blank>

BODY: unsubscribe homebrew address, where "address" is your own e-mail address

To post items to the reflector, send e-mail as follows:

TO: homebrew@qsl.net. If you have questions or need assistance contact: k7on@qsl.net. If you ever need to get in contact with the owner of the list, (if you have trouble unsubscribing, or have questions about the list itself) send e-mail to

<owner-homebrew@qsl.net>.

This general rule applies for most mailing lists when you need to contact a person rather than just the automated computer server.

Bob Stein (W6NBI), recommends the software reflector:
ham-software@qsl.net.

The subscription procedure is the same as for the homebrew list. To subscribe, send e-mail as follows:

TO: majordomo@qsl.net

SUBJECT: <leave blank>

BODY: subscribe ham-software address, where "address" is your own e-mail address.

ICOM radio users can exchange information about their radios through a new site maintained by Al Walker (K3TKJ). Subscribe as follows:

TO: majordomo@qsl.net

SUBJECT: <leave blank>

BODY: subscribe icom address, where "address" is your own e-mail address.

SMIRK, the Six Meter International Radio Klub, has a new reflector dealing with six meter activities and schedules for six meter QSO's. To subscribe, send e-mail as follows:

TO: majordomo@qsl.net

SUBJECT: <leave blank>

BODY: subscribe SMIRK address, where "address" is your own e-mail address.

Ham radio lists tend to be factual with hams cooperating with each other to further the hobby. Identities can be checked with the use of callsigns. Keep in mind, though, that the word "Net" (short for Internet) can sometimes be considered an acronym meaning "Not Entirely True". This is especially true for Internet chat rooms where the participants are anonymous. ☺☺☺

Vic Black (AB6SO)

(Continued from page 52)Program Note

under FCC Part 15, units are limited to one (1) watt output, which can drive a 6-dBi gain antenna to attain usable range and reliability. At this time there are "thousands and thousands" of the node-units installed around the Bay Area, to serve customers by picking up their signals and channeling them, in one or two relay hops, into a central Wired Access Point ("WAP"), for retransmission over conventional wire networks. There is -or will be - a WAP serving each 20+ square mile grid in a given area, each area containing X number of the 900 MHz nodes. Depending on location, it is "not uncommon" for one node to "see" (be able to communicate with) another node 20 or more miles away. Each node is programmed to periodically query up to 200 other "in sight" nodes regarding operating condition.

Paradigm: you send an e-mail message to Washington, DC directly from your keyboard via Ricochet modem to the "best" node, which passes it on to a WAP sending it via wire to a

(Continued on page 54)Program Note

E\$

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PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

PAARAgaphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members.
(short personal ads remain free for members in good standing).

All ad rates listed are per issue only.

1. Not for profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost card size).
for business card size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size).

2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

These fees may be reduced or waived in exchange for a valuable consideration that is given to the Association or its general membership. Such consideration must be in addition to any existing arrangements with the association.

The PAARAgaphs editors reserve the right to reject any ad deemed to be not in the best interest of the Association. All fees are for "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads.

Join Us At The Next PAARA Meeting

July 11, 1997

(Continued from page 53) Program Note

WAP in Washington, thence to the Ricochet node serving your addressee - and Bob's your uncle.

As presently configured (Bob's answer to a question from the floor), a single WAP can handle from 3000 to 5000 customers, since it is essentially a multi-access server running at high data rates.

Most of the Bay Area is now supplied with Ricochet nodes and services; Bob pointed out that extension of the system depends on negotiation with municipalities, with owners of the supporting structures (e.g., utility poles), and suppliers of the A.C. power necessary to run the nodes.

Responding to another question from the floor, Bob stated that the only really significant shortcoming in the system is lack of a web page enabling users to keep updated on Ricochet's services.

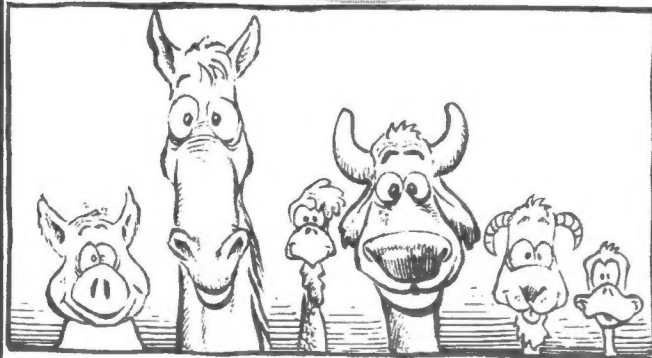
While the node-to-node (relay) data rate is 100 kbps, Bob stated that users experience effective rates from 14.4 to 28.8 kbps, depending on path conditions between the individual customer and his "best" node. The design objective is "80%-80%", meaning that 80% of buildings served by Ricochet in 80% of any given town (or other community) would have 28.8 kbps capacity. Factors ultimately affecting users' throughput rate are: distance to node, number of hops (relays), and number of customers trying to access a given node at the same time.

-30-

*I wasted time, and now doth time waste me;
 For now hath time made me his numbering clock;
 My thoughts are minutes.*

—Shakespeare

**Join us for pre-meeting eyeball
 QSO July 11th**



gab & gobble

**6 pm— at Su Hong Restaurant
 1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
 —across from Kepler's Book Store—**

(Continued from page 51) PAARA Meeting

4908) or **Fred Canham (K6YT)** (948-9238) to volunteer for station setup or operating. The gate is locked at night so use 145.23 repeater to have someone open the gate at night. A volunteer sheet was circulated. We still need CW operators, a novice station (worth 1000 points), a second CW transceiver, a packet station, ad a volunteer to bring food. **Bill(AA6PA)** will run the satellite station. **Gerry(WA6LNV)** obtained a 4-section steel tower, and **Vic(AB6SO)** picked up a 105 foot, 6-section tower. Computer logging may be used this year. We placed 18th in the country in our class last year.

New Business:

1. Autumn Auction
2. Special Events station for our 60th anniversary
3. License class this summer
4. Officers' Nominating Committee
5. Winter Party

Operating News:

1 **Dan (WB6STW)** and **Steve(K6FS)** contacted someone in the Gulf Stream airborne mobile at 43000 feet on 20 meters, who commented that there was no difference from ground level.

Show and Tell:

1 **Andy (VE3FZK)** got a compass used in World War II to find the bearings of stars.

2 **Fred (K6YT)** needed 6 or 8 pin Jones connectors for tower rotors (8 for each tower). **Ron (W6VG)** had some.

3 Our speaker, **David (W1AIX)** talked about an upcoming VHF/UHF contest. **W6AMT** will be on top of Mt. Diablo operating FM and sideband. Anyone can schedule a contact. Entry blanks are up front.

After the break, **David Waitt (W1AIX)** spoke about the Metricom Ricochet Data Personal Communications System. He was originally licensed as **KF6COV**, but resurrected his grandfather's call (**W1AIX**) as a vanity call. The Ricochet is a wireless data communication system which uses Metricom's MCDN (micro-cellular data network). It replaces the telephone line and modem, acting like a cellular phone system. It operates in the 902928 MHz band using frequency-hopping spread speculum. 10% of Metricom's employees are hams. After David was finished speaking, the meeting was adjourned.

*PAARA Meeting submitted by **Dave Bailey (WS6W)***



Coast Guard Commemorative Station

PAARA is considering teaming up with the Air Guard for the 129th International Guard Open House July 13. We have been invited to set up a special events station. We hope to operate an HF station for 5 to 6 hours. If you would like to help, contact:

Steve Stuntz (K6FS), 415 322 4952 before July 7th

Portrait of an 80 meter DXer

Working 80 meter DX - not withstanding the skills and knowledge of antennas, equipment, and the gray line - is somewhat 1 contradiction of human behavior. We generally are either night persons or day persons, but never both. To work 80 meter DX you have to be both. You stay up late for the DX sunrise and get up early for the DX sunset. This results in a phenomenon called "loss of sleep". To the avid 80 meter DXer, sleep is merely the absence of wakefulness. Whenever the conditions maintaining wakefulness, such as DX are abolished, only then is one asleep.

The 80 meter DXer, when lot working DX, develops certain traits and characteristics that are easily recognizable:

1) He is the last to leave a party or social event. What better time to listen for DX than at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning.

2) He is known to drink large quantities of water before going to bed. Getting up at 3:00 a.m. has its advantages.

3) Some 80 meter huffs suffer from a mild case of narcolepsy. They are known to fall asleep during the day when least expected.-

From the foregoing analysts it may be concluded that success in working DX on 80 meters is a case of mind over mattress.

- Hal, N6AN



Pacificon 97 October 17-19

P.O. Box 272613 Concord, CA 94527-2613

Hotline: (510) 932-6125

e-mail: PACIFICON@designlink.com

AWARD

To celebrate our 60th year:

PAARA members making 60 contacts July 1, 1997–December 31, 1997
All bands, any mode (except repeaters). Submit log or photo copy showing date, time, freq., call, name and QTH. QSL not required. You will receive our 60 year award from PAARA. More info at July 11 meeting. —Steve, K6FS

PAARA MONDAY NIGHT NET

8:30 PM 145.230-600 MHz repeater

PL tone off

Latest news between monthly issues of PAARAgaph

CABBAGE/ PEA SALAD

(publication requested at PAARA Picnic)

2 cups shredded cabbage

10 oz. box frozen peas - thawed but not cooked

1 (or more) minced green onion

Mix together in bowl.

Dressing :

1/4 cup sour cream

1/4 cup mayonnaise

1/4 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. curry powder

1 Tblsp. white wine vinegar

1 tsp. prepared mustard

pepper to taste



Mix dressing ingredients together well with wire whisk.

Just before serving, add 3/4 cup Spanish peanuts to vegetables and mix with dressing.

I usually double the recipe.

—Joan Porter



VE

Saturday, June 21 we had 22 applicants, (all at one time, it seemed). Some of course took two or more exams, so it made

for a very busy time. We had once again a very skeleton crew, it seems to get smaller all the time. It seems all radio clubs (including PAARA) have a dearth of volunteers. All have good reasons to be busy on one day of the month. (for 2 hours) The regulars were there, Joe Horne Sr., WB6OWG, Gene

Irazarrry KK6LO, (from Fremont) Dan Curry WB6STW, & Ron Panton W6VG. No CW tests were given this month, as our CW man Bill Sooman WB6UVO had a work commitment. **WE REALLY DO NEED EXTRA HELP**, even for 1 hour between 1100 AM and 12 noon on the 3rd Saturday each month. **Dan Curry** threatens to upgrade soon, so we will need someone to take his place at the welcome table. (taking in the money, giving out 610 forms) Any license is ok for taking in the money, etc. However, we welcome any extras who can help out with handing out tests. I have the easy job of grading the tests. Guess my seniorit helped. All of us have been doing this small contribution to ham radio for many years. Let's see some fresh help

—Ron W6VG

Due to limited space this issue, picnic pictures and Pres. Vic (AB6SO)'s article on PAARA Flea Market will be in the August PAARAgaphs

PAARA-Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association-P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA. • Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 MHz repeater, PL tone off. • Membership in PAARA is \$12.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs. • Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association.

